

Mr. ELLZEY. Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the gentlewoman on this accomplishment, and I congratulate her also on her hard work in securing funding for the community-based outreach clinic.

I know how much of a difference they make, and I take this moment to call attention to the fact that the bipartisan achievement of funding so many community-based outreach clinics in the Honoring our PACT Act was transformational for this country, transformational for America's veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in passing S. 2159, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2159.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CORPORAL JERRY K. CRUMP VA CLINIC

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5481) to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Forest City, North Carolina, as the "Corporal Jerry K. Crump VA Clinic", as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5481

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. NAME OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMUNITY-BASED OUTPATIENT CLINIC, FOREST CITY, NORTH CAROLINA.

The Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Forest City, North Carolina, shall after the date of the enactment of this Act be known and designated as the "Master Sergeant Jerry K. Crump VA Clinic". Any reference to such clinic in any law, regulation, map, document, record, or other paper of the United States shall be considered to be a reference to the Master Sergeant Jerry K. Crump VA Clinic.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ELLZEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 5481, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Master Sergeant J.K. Crump, a native of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, and a Korean war veteran who embodied the courage and indomitable fighting spirit of our Nation's Armed Forces.

This bill, H.R. 5481, as amended, will name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Forest City, North Carolina, the Master Sergeant Jerry K. Crump VA Clinic.

I thank my colleague, Representative VIRGINIA FOXX, for introducing this bill.

In early September 1951, Master Sergeant Crump, then an 18-year-old Army rifleman, and fellow members of Company L of the 3rd Infantry Division were attacked by invading Chinese forces near Chorwon, Korea. In the fire-fight that ensued, Master Sergeant Crump left cover twice: first, to retrieve a wounded comrade, and then again to recapture a machine gun from advancing Chinese soldiers.

After returning to his position, an enemy grenade was flung into the fox-hole that Master Sergeant Crump shared with four wounded infantrymen. With no regard for his own well-being, Master Sergeant Crump covered the explosives with his own body. The grenade detonated, but miraculously, Master Sergeant Crump survived.

The heroism that Master Sergeant Crump displayed that day more than 70 years ago undoubtedly saved the lives of fellow soldiers and rightfully earned him the Medal of Honor, our highest military decoration for valor, which President Truman awarded him in 1952.

Master Sergeant Crump went on to serve another 26 years in the U.S. Army before retiring in 1976. He died a year later and was interred at the Mount Zion Community Cemetery in Cornelius, North Carolina.

Master Sergeant Crump's actions in combat were emblematic of the selfless sacrifice and devotion to duty that so many who don the uniform of our great Nation display. He, and the generation of those who served alongside him, truly represented the best ideals of our country.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD letters of support for H.R. 5481, as amended, from The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Disabled American Veterans.

THE AMERICAN LEGION,
DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Raleigh, NC, March 16, 2022.

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN FOXX, It is with a great deal of pride that I endorse the naming of the Veterans Affairs (VA) outpatient clinic in Forest City, North Carolina, after the Medal of Honor recipient and North Carolina native, Jerry Crump.

I am personally familiar with the facility in Forest City. I receive my medical atten-

tion at that clinic. The Forest City VA clinic is a wonderful facility, and the staff is outstanding.

I have met with the American Legion members in Forest City and in Henrietta, NC who have advocated for the renaming to the Jerry Crump VA Medical Clinic. There are a few older American Legion members that remember attending school with Jerry. The communities of Forest City and Henrietta are proud of the native son and have often advocated for this honor. The American Legion Department of North Carolina does whole heartily support the renaming of the Forest City VA clinic after Medal of Honor Recipient Jerry Crump.

The honor of naming a Forest City VA Clinic after this courageous American would be a fitting tribute to Corporal Crump.

Respectfully,

JIM QUINLAN,
*The American Legion,
Department of North Carolina.*

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS,
Raleigh, NC, March 10, 2022.

Rep. VIRGINIA FOXX,
Washington, DC.

Re Endorsement of naming the VA Outpatient Clinic in Forest City, NC after MOH Recipient Jerry Crump.

DEAR REP FOXX: As the State Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of America, Department of North Carolina, I am writing you to express full support of the naming of the VA Outpatient Clinic in Forest City, NC, after Medal of Honor recipient and North Carolina native, Jerry Crump. Mr. Crump embodied the spirit of patriotism, valor, fidelity and selfless service needed to save the Soldiers of his Platoon from death or serious injury when they came under attack on September 6-7, 1951 during the Korean War. Mr. Crump heroically flung himself on a grenade from an enemy Soldier and shielded his comrades from the blast. Naming this VA Outpatient Clinic in his name would be a great honor to this distinguished Soldier

RUSSELL CHAMBERS,
*State Commander,
Department of North Carolina.*

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS,
DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Raleigh, NC, March 8, 2022.

Hon. MARK TAKANO,
Chairman, House Committee on Veterans Affairs, Washington, DC.

Hon. MIKE BOST,
Ranking Member, House Committee on Veterans Affairs, Washington, DC.

CHAIRMAN MARK TAKANO AND RANKING MEMBER MIKE BOST: On behalf of Disabled American Veterans, Department of North Carolina, we are honored to extend our support to the efforts of Congresswoman Virginia Foxx to designate the Veterans Affairs (VA) outpatient clinic in Forest City, North Carolina, after Medal of Honor recipient and North Carolina native, Cpl. Jerry Crump.

During the Korean War, on September 7, 1951, Cpl. Crump embodied outstanding courage above and beyond the call of duty to save his brothers in arms. His selflessness and gallantry inspired his comrades to aggressively counterattack and drive enemy forces from their perimeter. In memorializing his name may everyone who enters this facility remember that all gave some and some gave all.

Sincerely,
VERTIS R. RICHARDSON, III,
Department Commander.
JANICE WEATHERS,
Department Adjutant.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5481, as

amended. By doing so, we will bestow a befitting name on this facility in Ruth-erford County, North Carolina, where so many military veterans receive top-notch medical care.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ELLZEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5481, as amended, a bill to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Forest City, North Carolina, as the Master Sergeant Jerry K. Crump VA Clinic.

Master Sergeant Crump was a soldier in the U.S. Army during the Korean war, where he received the Medal of Honor and a Purple Heart for his heroic actions in September 1951.

Master Sergeant Crump rose above and beyond the call of duty in combat. One night, a numerically superior enemy force launched an assault against his unit's position on Hill 284. In danger of being overrun, he repeatedly put himself in danger, effectively firing on enemy combatants, killing several of them.

He then noticed two enemy soldiers on the verge of capturing an American machine gun. He charged at them with his bayonet, killing both and regaining control of the weapon.

Upon returning to his firing position, an enemy grenade landed in his bunker. He proceeded to jump on it and absorbed the blast, saving his fellow soldiers. His actions inspired his men so much that they rallied and conducted a successful counterattack.

It is for those heroic actions that Master Sergeant Crump was presented with both the Purple Heart and the Medal of Honor.

He miraculously survived the war and lived another 26 years. Tragically, he died in a car accident in 1977, at age 43, in Lincoln County, North Carolina. It is only fitting that this clinic be named after its hometown hero. It will serve as an inspiration, just like Master Sergeant Crump, for many generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I am very sorry that our good friend, VIRGINIA FOXX, is not here, but I thank Ranking Member FOXX for bringing to our attention the amazing story of this American hero.

I know the gentleman from Texas shares the growing emotion that I feel as we recognize these American heroes. It is truly remarkable.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ELLZEY. Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I likewise urge all of my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 5481, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5481, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Forest City, North Carolina, as the 'Master Sergeant Jerry K. Crump VA Clinic'."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RICHARD A. PITTMAN VA CLINIC

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6722) to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in French Camp, California, as the "Richard A. Pittman VA Clinic".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6722

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Richard A. Pittman was born on May 26, 1945, in French Camp, California.

(2) Richard A. Pittman enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1965 and was later promoted to Lance Corporal.

(3) On July 24, 1966, Lance Corporal Pittman's unit, First Platoon, Company I, Third Battalion, Fifth Marines, was moving along a trail near the Demilitarized Zone in the Republic of Vietnam when the Marines ahead of them came under attack.

(4) Upon hearing the attack, Lance Corporal Pittman took a machine gun and several belts of ammunition and rushed to aid his comrades. As he advanced, Lance Corporal Pittman encountered intense small-arms fire at point-blank range. He was able to return fire and silence the enemy combatants. Continuing towards the attacked Marines, Lance Corporal Pittman came under heavy fire from two automatic weapons, which he was able to destroy.

(5) When Lance Corporal Pittman learned there were additional wounded Marines further along the trail, he endured enemy mortar and gunfire to get to them. As he reached them, he faced an attack by 30 to 40 enemy fighters.

(6) Lance Corporal Pittman used a combination of machine-gun fire, an enemy sub-machine gun, a pistol from a fallen comrade, and a grenade to cause enemy forces to withdraw. Due to his courageous actions, many of his wounded comrades were saved.

(7) In recognition of his bravery that day, Richard A. Pittman, who was then a Sergeant, was awarded the Medal of Honor by President Lyndon B. Johnson on May 14, 1968.

(8) Richard A. Pittman retired in 1988 as a Master Sergeant, after having served in the Marine Corps for more than two decades.

SEC. 2. NAME OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMUNITY-BASED OUTPATIENT CLINIC, FRENCH CAMP, CALIFORNIA.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient

clinic in French Camp, California, shall after the date of the enactment of this Act be known and designated as the "Richard A. Pittman VA Clinic".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the clinic referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Richard A. Pittman VA Clinic".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ELLZEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 6722.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life of a remarkable Californian, Master Sergeant Richard Allan Pittman, by naming VA's brand-new, state-of-the-art outpatient clinic in French Camp, California, the Richard A. Pittman VA Clinic.

I thank my friend and colleague, Representative JERRY MCNERNEY of California, for leading this legislation, which will appropriately pay tribute to Master Sergeant Pittman, a marine who served his Nation with honor and distinction during and after the Vietnam war.

A native of the San Joaquin Valley, Master Sergeant Pittman was born in French Camp, California, in 1945 and graduated from Franklin High School in nearby Stockton in 1964.

Declared legally blind in one eye, Master Sergeant Pittman was considered medically unfit for combat by the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines, but he did not let that deter him. Set on serving in the military, Master Sergeant Pittman somehow bluffed a vision test and enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve in 1965. He was soon deployed to Vietnam.

On July 24, 1966, as his unit moved along a narrow jungle path near the demilitarized zone, marines ahead of him came under heavy fire. Master Sergeant Pittman immediately leaped into action, grabbing a machine gun and several belts of ammunition as he rushed to his comrades' defense.

Facing a frontal assault by dozens of North Vietnamese troops, Master Sergeant Pittman boldly repelled the enemy attack by using a combination of weapons he had at his disposal.

His actions that day no doubt saved the lives of several wounded marines. For this "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life," Master Sergeant Pittman was awarded the Medal of Honor by President Johnson in 1968.